



# **AN ANALYSIS OF ILLOCUTIONARY ACTS IN THE MARRIAGE VOWS OF CHRISTIAN'S WEDDINGS**

**A THESIS**

**In Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for  
the Sarjana Degree Majoring Linguistics in English Department  
Faculty of Humanities Diponegoro University**

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SEMARANG  
2019**

## **PRONOUNCEMENT**

The writer would like to pronounce that this thesis entitled An Analysis of Illocutionary Acts in The Marriage Vows of Christian's Weddings is compiled by herself without taking any results of other researchers in S-1, S-2, S-3, and in diploma degree of any universities. The writer also ascertains that there are none of illegal quotations from any material of other publications except for the references mentioned.

Semarang, 27 August 2019

Selaga Benning Megan Pinilih

## MOTTO AND DEDICATION

*“Those who never change their minds, never change anything.”*

—**Winston Churchill**

*“There is a world out there that we should see.”*

—**Ryan Tedder**

*This thesis is dedicated to  
My beloved mother, Dewi Kiswanti  
For her unconditional love*

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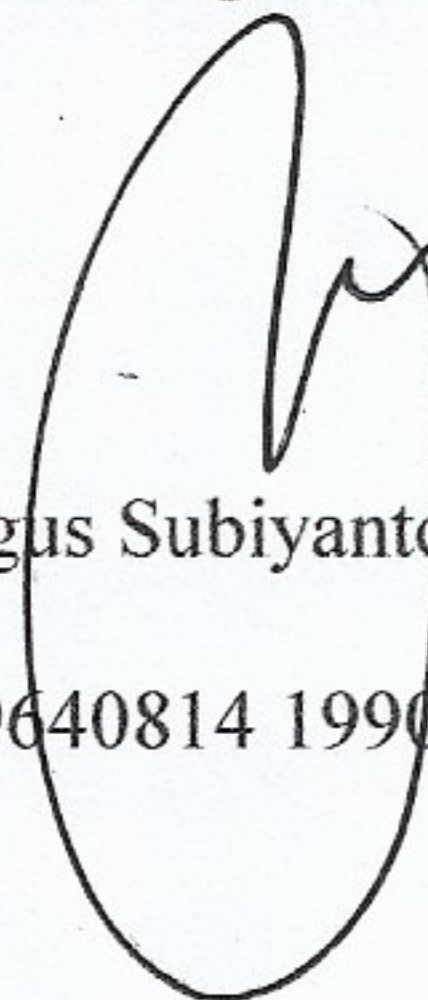
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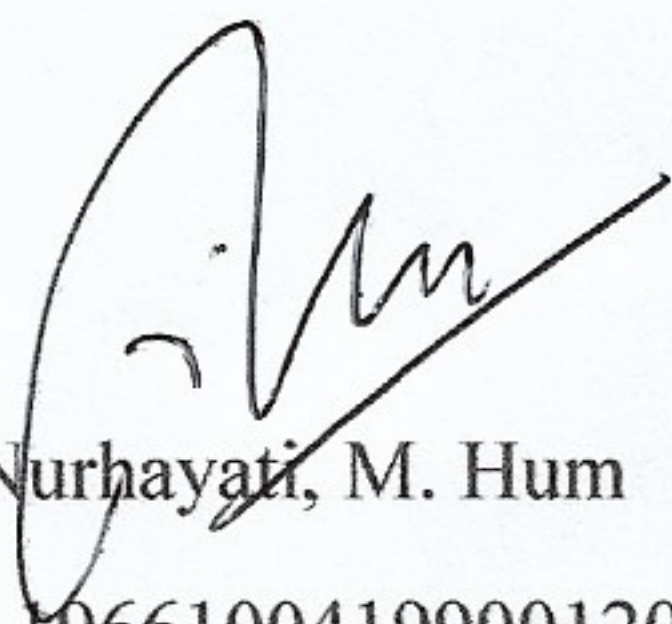
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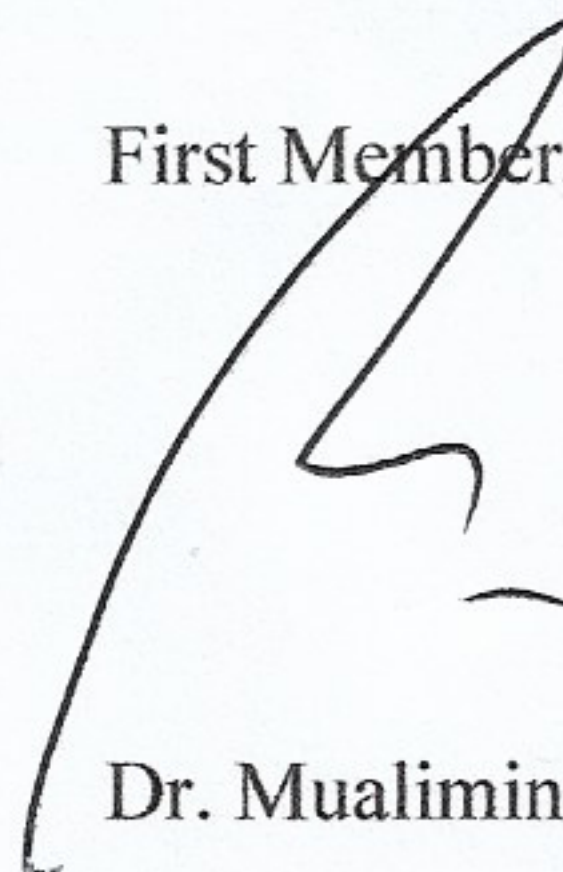
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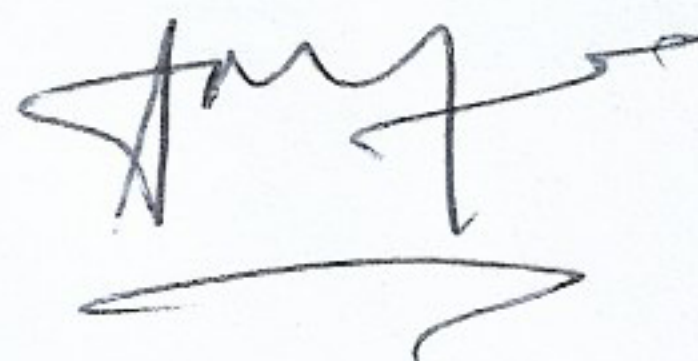
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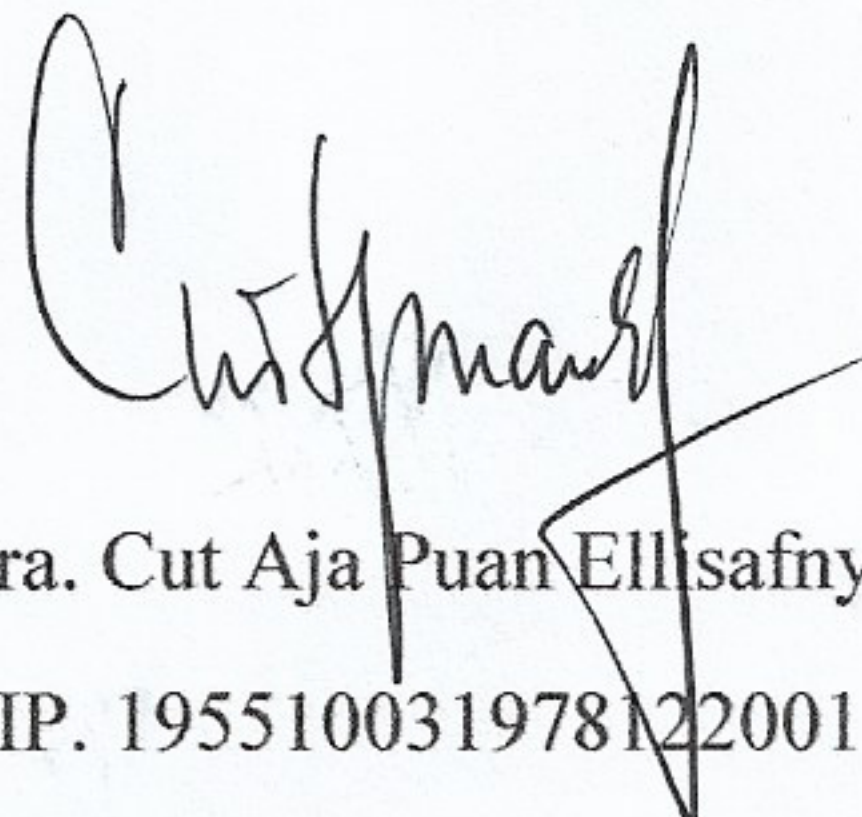
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Finally, the writer realizes that this thesis is far from perfect. Therefore, the writer will be glad to accept any constructive criticism and suggestion to make this thesis better. The writer hopes that this thesis will be useful for the readers in the future.

Semarang, August 27<sup>th</sup> 2019

The writer

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## ABSTRAK

Menikah merupakan kegiatan sakral untuk menyatukan dua insan yang lajang ke dalam satu ikatan suci untuk menjadi teman hidup. Pernikahan dilakukan oleh semua kalangan masyarakat kristiani, mulai dari kalangan orang biasa hingga anggota kerajaan. Di dalam pernikahan anggota kerajaan, pendeta memimpin jalannya pernikahan antara mempelai pria dan mempelai wanita sehingga terjadi proses tindak tutur antara kedua belah pihak. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk membahas tindak tutur yang muncul dan kata kerja performatif yang digunakan dalam janji pernikahan keluarga kerajaan Inggris, yaitu pernikahan Putri Diana dan Pangeran Charles, pernikahan Kate Middleton dan Pangeran William, dan pernikahan Meghan Markle dan Pangeran Harry dengan menggunakan teori *felicity conditions* oleh Searle, Vanderveken, dan Yule. Metode yang digunakan adalah metode padan. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa terdapat 5 jenis tindak tutur yang muncul yaitu asertif, direktif, komisif, ekspresif, dan deklarasi yang ditunjukkan dengan menggunakan kata kerja secara tersirat dan bersifat langsung.

Kata kunci: tindak tutur, janji pernikahan, kondisi felisitas, kata kerja performatif





# **CHAPTER 1**

## **INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1. Background of the Study**

In Christian marriage, there are a few things required to propose one, such as a bride, a groom, a priest, witnesses, and the marriage vows. Marriage vows are promises spoken by each groom and bride to commit themselves as a couple. Each groom and bride will declare their promises, obligations, and rights which is led by the priest. The characteristics of marriage vows in Christian's wedding usually consist of pledges, giving and receiving ring processes, and prayers. In performing marriage vows, the people who are involved will produce speech acts in their utterances.

Austin (1962) states that the act of marrying has to come up with something convincing in the words of vows and actions. Both of them are necessary so that the marriage vows can achieve its purpose. Although the marriage vows are infelicitous, it can still achieve its purpose. Searle (1969) implies that not all essential perlocutionary act appears in the form of an activity, such as in marriage vows. Once the bride and groom state the vows, the perlocutionary act is they are married to each other.

Palmer (1976) says that an utterance consists of locutionary act, illocutionary act, and perlocutionary act, such as in making vows. A marriage vows should be felicitous to achieve its purpose. Yule (1996) claims that marriage vows are considered as declarative speech act. It dwells the locutionary act, illocutionary act,

and perlocutionary act because it is performed appropriately in a specific context. Although many research has been done, more studies are still needed, especially focusing felicity conditions and illocutionary acts.

This thesis analyzed the illocutionary acts found in the marriage vows of the British royal family's weddings of Princess' Diana, Kate Middleton, and Meghan Markle's. The three women are influential for standing up for women's right and many humanitarian activities. Their marriage vows are considered to be peculiar because they agreed to left out the obedience by removing the phrases "to obey" and "to serve" in their marriage vows which broke out the royal protocol. The purposes of this study are to analyze the illocutionary acts found in the marriage vows that removed the obedience phrase, and how it fulfills the felicity conditions.

## **1.2. Research Questions**

This thesis focuses on the illocutionary acts and the felicity conditions of marriage vows in the royal wedding spoken by the priests, grooms, and brides. According to the background of the study, two research problems are proposed:

1. What are the types of the illocutionary acts found in the marriage vows of the royal wedding?
2. How do the illocutionary act fulfill the felicity conditions?

## **1.3. Purposes of the Study**

The purposes of the thesis is to solve the previous research questions:

1. To classify the illocutionary acts performed by the participants in the marriage vows of the British royal family.
2. To apply felicity conditions in classifying the types of illocutionary acts.

#### **1.4. Previous Study**

Toumi and Moumene (2010), in the study of ‘Students’ Awareness of Felicity Conditions and Their Attitudes towards the Application of Felicitous Speech Acts’, investigated the effectiveness of how students use felicity conditions to produce felicitous speech acts. The data were taken using questionnaires consist of twelve questions about felicity conditions according to Austin (1962) Searle (1976) which are divided into three sections. The results showed that the majority of students were familiar with felicity conditions in general and they were able to perform felicitous speech acts effectively. In conclusion, the students had no difficulties in performing felicitous speech acts. The writers used a population of language students as their data, therefore, they performed and understood the theory of felicitous excellently. It could be better if the writers compared it with other students which has no knowledge about felicity conditions to see the gap. Despite all that, this research contains a lot of inormation which is useful for the readers.

Yastini (2012), in the study of ‘Infelicitous Illocutions in How to Train Your Dragon’, explored that a script movie contains various kinds of speech acts performed by every character. In this research, the writer focused on the gap in each dialogue using the theory illocutionary acts. The data were taken qualitatively by using the theory of illocutionary acts and felicity conditions by Austin (1962) and Searle (1969), and the theory of ethnography ‘SPEAKING’ proposed by Hyme. There were four types of speech act, namely representative, directive, expressive, and commisive, especially in directive speech acts. This research did not explain clearly the findings by using Hyme theory and the writer did not mention the



dialogues which performing the four types of speech acts. Nevertheless, the writer briefly explained the research simply.

Faradila and Hamzah (2013), in their study of 'The Use of Illocutionary Act in Movie the Blind Side', used observational methods in note taking and transcribing every utterance in the movie script and applied the felicity conditions. The results showed that six types of illocutionary acts were found in the script, namely representatives, interrogatives, commissives, expressive, directives, and declaratives. Other than that, a lot of grammatical errors was found in this research. Nonetheless, the writers explained their findings in detail.

Robinson (2013), in the study of 'Felicity conditions for counterfactual conditionals containing proper Names', used the concept of felicity conditions proposed by Heim's (1992) CCP Semantics and truth conditions theory for counterfactual conditional by Kratzer (1981). The data were taken by using random sentences containing illocutionary acts. The results exposed that proper names in the consequent clause triggered infelicity if proper names were fixed with any other same individual proper name. This research contains very useful information for those who are willing to learn about felicity conditions in higher level.

Adnyasuari (2014), in the study of 'Felicity Condition of Women's Illocutions in The Novel Stand by Me' by Sheila O'Flanagan, figured the contrast between men's and women's utterances. She found that women's utterances have more complicated structure because it could be intended to everything in both written and spoken. The data were analyzed by using quantitative methods. The writer used the theory of illocutionary acts stated by Searle (1979) and the theory of felicity

conditions by Austin (1962). It is discovered that there were four types of illocutionary act in the novel, but the assertive type was the only one standing out for expressing the sincerity utterance of the female character in the findings. This research did not show the other three types of the illocutionary acts. The writer did not refer the exact character which the utterance were analyzed. However, this research is recommended because it is simple and easy to understand.

The fact that the marriage vows are chosen as the topic is because the writer discovers it as significant. This kind of marriage vows is considered particular because it is used in royal wedding by the royal families and it removes the obedience of the brides to their grooms. The gap between this research and the previous studies is that none of them has taken the subject of marriage vows to analyze. The previous studies are only focused on the locutionary acts, illocutionary acts, and perlocutionary acts in utterances, while this study focuses on the use felicity conditions in the speech acts that appear on the marriage vows.

### **1.5. Organization of the Writing**

This research is written orderly in the following steps:

#### **Chapter I**

#### **INTRODUCTION**

It comprehends the topic and the issues that are examined in the thesis. This part contains background of the study, research questions, purposes of the study, and the writing organization.

**Chapter II****REVIEW OF LITERATURES**

It exposes the underlying theories linked to the topic to resolve the issues and to analyze the data. This part consists of speech acts, locutionary acts, illocutionary acts, and illocutionary forced theories.

**Chapter III****RESEARCH METHODS**

It describes the data that are used for the research. This part consists of types of research, data sources, populations, samples, methods of collecting the data, and methods of analyzing data.

**Chapter IV****FINDING AND DISCUSSION**

It explains the analysis about the data broadly and it includes the data that are described in the Chapter II. This is the main part that consists of findings and discussion.

**Chapter V****CONCLUSION**

It compiles and sums up the results of the research that has been conducted throughout the analysis of the data.



## **CHAPTER 2**

### **REVIEW OF LITERATURES**

#### **2.1. Speech Acts**

Linguistics is a subject which studies language scientifically related to its form, meaning, and context. This study takes up pragmatics, which is one of the subfields in linguistics, related to the meaning of languages. According to Yule (1996: 3), pragmatics is the study of the meaning intended by the speakers toward the listeners in their utterances. In communicating, at least two participants are prescribed to become the speaker and the listener. The speaker utters its meaning by using the words or phrase which later will be interpreted by the listener. In order to prevent misunderstanding in communicating, the study of pragmatics are needed.

Three theories by Yule (1996: 47-58), Searle (1969: 22-70), and Vanderveken (1990: 179-213) are applied related to the scope of the study which will consist of speech acts and felicity conditions. Pragmatics take up a number of subjects related with communication. One of the subjects is called speech acts. Speech acts (Yule, 1996: 47) almost have the similar meanings to pragmatics. It is the action of communicating which is implemented by the speaker along with its utterances.

Yule (1996: 47-48) states that there are three acts related in performing speech acts. Those three acts are called locutionary act, illocutionary act, and perlocutionary act. Locutionary act is the basic statement that is uttered by the speaker which has a given purpose. Illocutionary act is the intended meaning in the

utterance that is spoken by the speaker. Sometimes the speaker might utter a statement which has a different purpose from its utterances, and it is called illocutionary force. Perlocutionary act is an action that is done by the hearer after making an assumption from the speaker's utterances. It is also known as perlocutionary effect. In performing speech acts, the speaker can deliver the utterance directly and indirectly. Direct speech act is an utterance which has direct link between the form structure and its communicative function. Indirect speech act is an utterance which has no direct link between the form structure and its functions. In other word, delivering direct speech act is simpler than performing indirect speech acts.

Searle (1969: 54) suggests that some illocutionary acts are possible to be defective, or infelicitous, in some cases especially in the act of promising. Therefore, illocutionary force indicating device is needed to analyze whether an illocutionary act is considered to be successful, or felicitous.

## **2.2. Types of Speech Acts**

The writer uses the five types of speech acts proposed by Vanderveken (1990: 179-213) namely assertives, directives, commissives, expressives, and declarations in the following definitions:

**2.2.1 Assertives:** Speech acts of stating what the speaker considers to be true in the right circumstances. The performative verbs of assertive must have a function to tell the situation that really happens.

**2.2.2 Commissives:** Speech acts of committing into some future action by the speaker to the hearer. The performative verbs of commissive must have a function to show a commitment of doing something.

**2.2.3 Directives:** Speech acts of getting the hearer to do something for the speaker. The performative verbs of directive should have a function to get the hearer to do something.

**2.2.4 Declarations:** are speech acts of declaring something that changes the circumstances by the utterances spoken by the speaker to the hearer. The performative verbs of declaration must have a function to change the condition of someone.

**2.2.5 Expressives:** are speech acts of expressing what the speaker acknowledge to the hearer. The performative verbs of expressive must have a function to express what is seen and felt by the speaker.

### **2.3. Illocutionary Force Indicating Devices**

It is similar that Yule (1996: 44) also uses the illocutionary force indicator, which is called IFID (Illocutionary Force Indicating Devices), and felicity conditions to observe the illocutionary force in the illocutionary acts performed by the speaker. All utterances in the marriage vows are performative because it is done with an action, but it might have explicit and implicit verbs and performed indirectly or directly. Therefore, the IFIDs is used to determine the existence of performative verbs whether they are performed explicitly or implicitly. A request sentence, for

example, the performative verb '**need**' in '**I need you to buy me milk**' is considered as an illocutionary act which performed directly with explicit performative verbs, and it can be drawn up as this formulation : **I** (first person)+ **need** (Vp) + **you** (second speaker)+ **to** + **buy me milk** (U), which described as:

**I** : The first person singular

**Vp** : Performative verb (need).

**You** : The second person singular.

**U** : Utterance (buy me milk).

The IFIDs proposed by Yule also can be used to determine performative verbs. They can appear implicitly, for instance, in the sentence '**She is cooking**'. It means that '**I tell you that she is cooking**'. The word order in the pattern shows that there is a speaker (I), but it is not mentioned. The hearer '**You**' which is neither mentioned, and the implicit performative verb is '**tell**'. The way of speaker intonation in saying the sentence also affects the illocutionary force.

## 2.4 Felicity Conditions

It is obvious that promise could be sincere and insincere. To analyze the sincere promise, the writer will use the rules in using illocutionary force indicating device and fulfill all the felicity conditions. Felicity conditions are applied to see the effectiveness of an utterance. Searle (1969: 62) states that the rules of felicity conditions are:

1. Propositional content conditions: a promise is an utterance in a form of sentence spoken by a speaker which intends a future action that will be done by either the speaker or hearer. It is the

circumstances of a speaker or hearer in making the promise. The assertion which shows the future action of the speaker is called *propositional content rule*.

2. Preparatory conditions: a speaker must be confidence about the act and the conditions, or events, in proposing a promise. A speaker is demand to have the control over the hearer in making the promise. A promise that is proposed when neither the speaker nor hearer are clear in a certain circumstance is called *preparatory rule*.
3. Sincerity conditions: a promised is uttered only when a speaker really determines to do the act in the future. The promise has to be made without any element of compulsion, and the performer must carries out its psychological sentiment regarding the propositional content conditions. The sincerity that should exist in making a promise is called *sincerity rule*.
4. Essential conditions: the intention in a promise must have an essential condition to get the speaker or hearer complete the aimed promise. The obligation of doing the promised that is uttered is called *essential rule*.

## **CHAPTER 3**

### **RESEARCH METHODS**

#### **3.1. Type of Research**

This type of research is a qualitative descriptive. The purpose that is determined by the writer in this proposal is to describe the type illocutionary acts and felicity conditions used in the marriage vows in the weddings of Princess Diana and Prince Charles, Kate Middleton and Prince William, and Meghan Markle and Prince Harry. Hadi (1980:3) states that the descriptive research will mainly illustrates the phenomena or current situation that happens to the objects and it will take the broad consequences based on the circumstances.

#### **3.2. Data, Population, and Sample**

Suryabrata (2014:39) states that the data and information that are collected sincerely from the main sources are called primary data, and the data that are consisted of documents, or they are not taken from the main sources, are called secondary data. The writer used descriptive qualitative because the writer focuses on describing the data which are in utterances form. The data were taken from ‘CBS News’ YouTube channel entitled ‘Charles and Diana exchange vows’, ‘Fox News Insider’ YouTube channel entitled ‘Video: Kate and William exchange vows’, and ‘Today’ YouTube channel entitled ‘Royal Wedding: Prince Harry Lifts Meghan Markle’s Veil’ which has already been watched by more than a million times. This is a linguistic context which discusses the utterances with felicity conditions and illocutionary acts trigger.



The population in the data are all marriage vows in Christian's weddings spoken by the priests, grooms, and brides. The samples in this research are three Christian marriage vows of the British Royal Family which show the performative verbs representing all the speech acts which are spoken by the priests who led the marriages, Prince Charles, Princess Diana, Kate Middleton, Prince William, Prince Harry, and Meghan Markle. The writer also used purposive sampling technique because the writer chose and analyzed the utterances with every performative verb that represents all speech acts spoken by the priest, Prince Charles, Prince William, Prince Harry, Princess Diana, Kate Middleton, and Meghan Markle.

### **3.3. Methods of Collecting Data**

In collecting data, the writer uses the purposive technique by considering the aims of the background which analyzing the marriage vows containing illocutionary acts and felicity conditions. Observation of non-participant method is used because the writer is not directly involved in analyzing data. Sudaryanto (1993:134) claims that the non-participant observation is a method where the writer, or the researcher, is not the speaker in the conversation but someone who observe and analyze the utterances that are spoken by the speakers. Listening and note taking techniques are applied in evaluating the utterances.

### **3.4. Methods of Analyzing Data**

In this research, non-participant observation method is applied because the samples for the data are not directly involved since the data are taken from a video and the writer only observes the utterances. The techniques used in this research are called pragmatics identity methods. The identity techniques are applied to identify the

illocutionary acts in the marriage vows and the felicity conditions which make the utterances is felicitous. According to Sudaryanto (1993:13), the purpose of identity technique is to examine the other factors that have become the certain appliances which affecting the language usage. There are five types of identity technique, namely reference technique, articulatory phonetic technique, translation technique, orthography technique, and pragmatic technique.

Meanwhile, the pragmatics technique is used concerning the illocutionary acts and felicity conditions theory that are applied in the thesis, therefore, it is crucial to pay attention to the marriage vows that are spoken by the Princess Diana, Kate Middleton, and Meghan Markle as the interlocutors.

The data are analyzed by doing the following steps:

1. The writer watched and downloaded the videos from YouTube.
2. The writer listened and transcribed the utterances of marriage vows spoken by the priests, Prince Charles and Princess Diana, Prince William and Kate Middleton, Prince Harry and Meghan Markle.
3. The writer divided the utterances based on the types of illocutionary acts.
4. The writer started to analyze the utterances based on the illocutionary acts and felicity conditions.
5. The writer analyzed the felicity conditions of the utterances' illocutions.
7. The writer composed the conclusion from the analysis.

## **CHAPTER 4**

### **FINDING AND DISCUSSION**

In this chapter, the writer shows the results of illocutionary acts found in the marriage vows which had been analyzed using theories written by Searle (1979), Vanderveken (1990), and Yule (1996). The illocutionary acts of assertive, directive, commissive, expressive, and declaration appeared in the marriage vows of three British Royal weddings, which are the marriage of Prince Charles and the late Princess Diana, the marriage of Prince William and Kate Middleton, and the marriage of Prince Harry and Meghan Markle. They are the important members of British royal family which ruled several counties in England. The brides have a bear resemblance that they really support the equality between men and women, therefore, they let out the obedience in their marriage vows.

In 1981, Princess Diana was married to Prince Charles. Not only taking Prince Charles to be her spouse, she pledged herself to become the Princess of Wales. She understood that marriage is a holy commitment and it takes huge responsibilities. Princess Diana had committed herself in the wedding and agreed to become a leader with Prince Charles in Wales. The marriage vows that she declared was departed in the Book of Common Prayer of the 16th century. Unlike the other members of the royal family, her marriage vows are one of a kind. Princess Diana's marriage vows were known to be the first royal member who left the old protocol of the royal stigma for leaving out the vow of obedience. The phrases such as “..take thee..” “..and thereto I plight thee my troth” were still used, but she

omitted the phrases “to obey and to serve” regarding to her point of view that the standards of women and men within Christian marriage are equal. Unfortunately, the late Princess Diana passed away on August 31th, 1997 in hospital in virtue of injuries cause by a car crash in a road tunnel called Pont de l’Alma in Paris, France. Before she died, she gave birth of two sons named William Arthur Phillip Louis and Henry Charles Albert David which later got married to Kate Middleton and Meghan Markle.

In 2011, Kate Middleton got married to Prince William, which is also known as Princess Diana’s son. She is now the Duchess of Cambridge and her spouse becomes the Duke of Cambridge. Kate is famous for her attires that remain polite but break out the protocol traditions. Although she does not come from a noble blood, she is known for her generosity in developing the charity that focuses mainly on young children, addiction, and art. It is also known that Kate Middleton also left out the vow of obedience when she married Prince William. She also gave birth to the successors of the next British thrones which are Prince George, Princess Charlotte, and Prince Louis.

The marriage vows in Kate Middleton’s wedding were similar to Princess Diana’s marriage vows. There were not much differences between their marriage vows. It was also departed from Book of Common Prayer from the 16th Century, therefore, the illocutionary acts found in the marriage vows were the same. The entire processes in the wedding were similar to Princess Diana’s which also affected the speech acts in her marriage vows.

Meghan was an American actress and had starred television series and films such as *Suits* before she became the member of the British royal family. Megan is also a mixed-race and similar to Kate Middleton, does not heritage the noble blood in her. Therefore, she is the first person to hold the title of ‘The Royal Highness the Duchess of Sussex’. Meghan has been standing up for women for years and working with UN Women since 2014 as an advocate for political participation and leadership. In her wedding, she followed the footsteps of Princess Diana in making the feminist statement as she decided not to “obey” her new husband.

Unlike the other Princess Diana’s and Kate Middleton’s weddings, the phrases in Meghan’s marriage vows are likely changed to be more modern. Meghan Markle was also the only bride in the royal wedding who her father did not take her to the aisle because he did not attend the wedding. Therefore, there was no role of the father which partially changed a little part of the marriage vows. In Prince Harry and Meghan Markle’s wedding, both groom and bride were given a chance to declare their utterances in giving and receiving wedding rings session which also affected the marriage vows, because it is usually only the groom who declares his utterances while giving the wedding ring.

#### **4.1.Finding**

The writer analyzes the illocutionary acts and felicity conditions in the marriage vows performed by the priests, Prince Charles, Princess Diana, Prince William, Kate Middleton, Prince Harry, and Meghan Markle using the theories of Searle (1979), Vanderveken (1990), and Yule (1996). First, the writer divides the results into each marriage vows. Second, the writer mentions and explains the

examples of each illocutionary acts usage. Third, the examples of illocutionary acts found in the marriage vows are analyzed using the theory of felicity conditions. In performing illocutionary acts, similar performative verbs are likely being used more than one time by the speakers.

The writer finds that implicit and direct performative verbs are mostly used in speech acts. Fifty out of sixty-four performative verbs are completed implicitly, while thirty-four performative verbs are delivered directly. Those verbs that are delivered directly are ‘inform’ in assertives; ‘accept’, ‘commit’, and ‘promise’ in commissives; ‘ask’ and ‘request’ in directives; ‘thanks’ and ‘praise’ in expressives; and ‘declare’ in declaration. Furthermore, sixteen of implicit performative verbs are performed indirectly such as ‘remind’ in assertive; ‘request’ in directives. The rest of the performative verbs are performed explicitly and all of them are delivered directly, such as verbs ‘charge’, ‘require’, and ‘invite’ in directives; ‘pronounce’ and ‘proclaim’ in declarations.

The table below shows the frequency and percentage of the performative verbs usage:

**Table 4.1.1 Table of analyzing results of speech acts:**

Type of Speech Acts	Performative Verbs	Explicit			Implicit			Frequency	TOTAL
		PD	KM	MM	PD	KM	MM		
Assertives	Remind	-	-	-	-	-	1 (I)	1 (1.56%)	4 (6.25%)
	Inform	-	-	-	1 (D)	1 (D)	1 (D)	3 (4.69%)	
Commissives	Accept	-	-	-	2 (D)	2 (D)	3 (D)	7 (10.94%)	23 (35.94%)
	Commit	-	-	-	1 (D)	1 (D)	2 (D)	4 (6.25%)	
	Take	2 (D)	2 (D)	2 (D)	-	-	-	6 (9.38%)	
	Promise	-	-	-	2 (D)	2 (D)	2 (D)	6 (9.38%)	



Directives	Tell	-	-	-	1 (D)	1 (D)	1 (D)	3 (4.69%)	26 (40.63%)
	Charge	1 (D)	1 (D)	-	-	-	-	2 (3.13%)	
	Ask	-	-	-	3 (I)	3 (I)	3 (I)	9 (14.06%)	
	Request	-	-	-	2 (I) 1 (D)	2 (I) 1 (D)	2 (I) 1 (D)	9 (14.06%)	
	Require	1 (D)	1 (D)	-	-	-	-	2 (3.13%)	
	Invite	-	-	1 (D)	-	-	-	1 (1.56%)	
Expressive	Praise	-	-	-	1 (D)	1 (D)	1 (D)	3 (4.69%)	4 (6.25%)
	Thanks	-	-	-	-	-	1 (D)	1 (1.56%)	
Declaration	Declare	-	-	-	1 (D)	1 (D)	2 (D)	4 (6.25%)	7 (10.94%)
	Pronounce	1 (D)	1 (D)	-	-	-	-	2 (3.13%)	
	Proclaim	-	-	1 (D)	-	-	-	1 (1.56%)	
TOTAL	17							64	

\*PD = Princess Diana

KM = Kate Middleton

MM = Meghan Markle

D = Direct

I = Indirect

The table shows the performative verbs performed in speech acts in the marriage vows. There are five types of speech acts completed in marriage vows, namely assertives, commissives, directives, expressives and declaration. Each type has different kinds of performative verbs which are shown in different numbers. Other than that, the performative verbs are also completed differently.

According to the table, there are 64 utterances containing speech acts found in the marriage vows of three British Royal Family which are shown in 17 examples of utterances. The table shows that directive and commissive illocutionary acts dominated the marriage vows. Taken together, the illocutionary acts of directives and commissives in marriage vows account for by far the most frequent ones. It can

be seen that the number of percentage of directive illocutionary acts are 40,63% and commissive illocutionary acts are 35,94% which shows a slight difference. It appears that directive illocutionary acts are the most frequently used by the priests, and the performative verb that repeatedly shown are **‘ask’** and **‘request’**. Meanwhile, the figure for performative verb of commissive illocutionary act is **‘accept’**. However, the number of declaration illocutionary act is considerable around 10,94% in the marriage vows. The performative verb that repeatedly used is **‘declare’**.

Around 6,25% of assertive illocutionary acts are used in all marriage vows as same as expressive illocutionary acts. Based on the three marriage vows, the performative verb **‘thank’** in expressive illocutionary acts is only mentioned once in Prince Harry and Meghan Markle’s wedding. On the other hand, the performative verb **‘inform’** is used in each marriage vows and the performative verb of **‘remind’** is used one time by the priests in performing assertive illocutionary acts.

Overall, the illocutionary acts of directive, commissive, and declaration are more used rather than the illocutionary acts of assertive and expressive. In addition, the performative verbs are performed mostly implicit and direct, although few are performed explicitly or indirectly.

## 4.2. Discussion

The analysis below shows the examples of illocutionary acts which appeared on each marriage vow:

**4.2.1 Assertive** : It is the illocutionary act which stated and believed by the speaker in a certain circumstance. In this marriage vows, the assertive illocutionary

acts were used only by the priests. According to Searle (1969: 66), the felicity conditions of assertive speech acts are as follows:

- Propositional content : Any proposition of *p*.
- Preparatory condition : (i) *S* has evidence (reasons, etc) for the truth of *p*.  
(ii) It is not obvious for both *S* and *H* that *H* knows (does not need to be reminded of, etc) *p*.
- Sincerity condition : *S* believes *p*.
- Essential condition : Counts as an undertaking to the effect that *p* represents an actual state of affairs.

The assertive illocutionary acts were performed four times in the marriage vows. The performative verbs used in performing assertive speech acts were **‘remind’** and **‘inform’**. The verb **‘remind’** was used one time by the Priest in Meghan Markle and Prince Harry’s wedding before they make vows, and it was performed implicitly and indirectly. On the other hand, and the verb **‘inform’** was used one time by the priest to inform the audiences that the whole marriage sequences had been done. It was performed implicitly and directly.

In Princess Diana’s and Kate Middleton’s weddings, the performative verb **‘inform’** was the only verb that was performed by both priests in performing assertive speech acts. It had the same function which to inform the audiences that the wedding processions had finished. In performing assertive speech acts, it can be seen that the Priests were the only ones who performed both performative verbs **‘remind’** and **‘inform’**. Here are the examples of performative verbs performed in assertive illocutionary acts:

- The Priest : **William and Catherine have conceived consented together in holy wedlock, and have witnessed the same before God and this company, and thereto have given and pledged their troth either to other, and have declared the same by giving and receiving of a ring and by joining of hands. [39]**

In performing the ‘**inform**’ [39], the priest informed the hearer (everyone who attended the wedding) that the whole processes of marriage vows had been done by both Prince William and Kate Middleton which presented them as a new couple. The priest used the performative verb of ‘**inform**’ in declarative word order implicitly and directly. The illocutionary force can be indicated as follow:

- **William and Catherine have conceived consented together in holy wedlock, and have witnessed the same before God and this company...**
- **(I (first person) + inform (Vp) + the audiences (second person) + that + Princess William and Kate Middleton have consented together in holy wedlock, ...(U))**

The explanations of the felicity conditions in the marriage vows using the theories by Searle are explained below:

- Propositional content conditions: The priest informed everyone at the wedding that the marriage vows had been done by Prince William and Kate Middleton
- Preparatory conditions: The Priest wanted everyone to know by stating that the marriage vows had been done by completing the processes such as

declaring marriage vows, joining hands, giving bride to the groom and giving and receiving rings.

- Sincerity conditions: The priest believed that the marriage vows and all the formalities had been completed by both groom and bride.
- Essential conditions: People who attended the wedding ceremony noticed that the marriage vows had been done by Prince William and Princess Diana according to the priest.
- The Priest : **Harry and Meghan, the vows you are about to take are to be made in the presence of God** [41], who is judge of all and knows all the secrets in our hearts.

In performing assertive **‘remind’** [41], the speaker (The Priest) reminded the hearers (Prince Harry and Meghan Markle) that they were about to make holy vows in the name of God. Therefore, they should be thinking that the entire vows are not something to mess around with, and they must act properly in performing the vows. Although the priest did not mention the performative verb of **‘remind’** implicitly and indirectly, he still acted as the first speaker which performed different version of word order that its illocutionary force can still be indicated:

- **Harry and Meghan, the vows you are about to take are to be made in the presence of God...**

- (**I** (first person) + **remind** (Vp) + **Harry and Meghan** (second person) + **that** + **the vows they are about to take are to be made in the presence of God ...** (U))

The explanations of the felicity conditions in the marriage vows using the theories by Searle are explained below:

- Propositional content conditions: The priest reminded Prince Harry and Meghan Markle that they were about to make holy vows in the name of God.
- Preparatory conditions: The priest wanted more Prince Harry and Meghan Markle to take the marriage vows seriously because it would be stated in the name of God, so the priest could lead the wedding ceremony.
- Sincerity conditions: the priest believed that God witnessed Prince Harry and Meghan Markle in making the vows. Therefore, the prince wanted them to declare the vows with all their hearts.
- Essential conditions: Prince Harry and Meghan Markle understood the situation they were into before stating the marriage vows and they would follow the whole steps seriously.

**4.2.2 Commissive** : It is the illocutionary act which stated by the speaker in committing into some future action to the hearer. According to Searle (1969: 57), the felicity conditions of assertive speech acts are as follows:



- Propositional content : Future action *A* by *S*.
- Preparatory condition : (i) *S* believes *H* wants *A* done (ii) *S* is able to do *A*. (iii) *A* has not already been done. (iv) *H* will benefit from *A*.
- Sincerity condition : *S* is willing to do *A*.
- Essential condition : Counts as attempt of *S* to make *H* believes about the future act *A* to be done by *S*.

The commissives illocutionary acts were performed twenty-three times in all marriage vows. The performative verbs used in performing commissive illocutionary acts were ‘**promise**’, ‘**take**’, ‘**accept**’ and ‘**commit**’. The verb ‘**take**’ was used as a confirmation that either groom or bride has agreed to take the person as their spouse. The verb ‘**promise**’ was used to show the commitments between the groom and bride that they would always be together in every circumstances. The verb ‘**accept**’ was used by both groom and bride to answer the Priest’s question concerning to accept the person as their spouse. The verb ‘**commit**’ was used by both groom and bride to show their spouse that they have committed themselves in the wedlock.

In each marriage vows, the performative verbs were all performed similar. In Princess Diana’s marriage, the performative verbs of ‘**accept**’ and ‘**promise**’ were performed twice by Princess Diana and Prince Charles, and ‘**commit**’ was performed once by the groom. Those were performed implicitly and directly. Prior to the previous marriage vows, Kate Middleton and Prince Harry also performed the same number of performative verbs ‘**accept**’, ‘**commit**’ and ‘**promise**’. They

performed each of performative verbs in the same numbers, and they were performed implicitly and directly in the marriage vows by both groom and bride.

Nonetheless, both Meghan Markle and Prince Harry used the verbs of **‘accept’**, and **‘promise’** twice, and their wedding guests used **‘accept’** once. Meanwhile, the performative verb of **‘commit’** was mentioned Prince Harry and Meghan Markle, unlike the other two marriages where it was only performed by grooms. All performative verbs were accomplished implicitly and directly.

In commissive speech acts, the performative verb of **‘take’** was the only one performed explicitly by all the grooms and brides. It was mentioned two times in each marriage vow and the number of emergences were six times. It was all performed explicitly and directly. Here are the examples of performative verbs performed in assertive illocutionary acts:

- Princess Diana: **I, Diana Frances, take thee, Phillip Charles Arthur George, to my wedded husband.** [13]

In performing **‘take’**, [13] the speaker (Princess Diana) took the hearer (Prince Charles) to be her father. She received him after he took her to be his wife. Prince Charles responded to what Princess Diana had said by accepting the reality that he is now Princess Diana’s husband since the first time she said the utterance. Princess Diana performed the performative verb of **‘take’** explicitly and directly in declarative word order, which the illocutionary force can still be indicated as follow:

- **I, Diana Frances, take thee, Phillip Charles Arthur George, to my wedded husband.**

- (**I, Diana Frances** (first person) + **take** (Vp) + **thee, Phillip Charles Arthur George** (second person) + **to my wedded husband** (U)).

The explanations of the felicity conditions in the marriage vows using the theories by Searle are explained below:

- Propositional content conditions: Princess Diana took Prince Charles to be her husband. He became her husband starting from the first time she said the utterance.
- Preparatory conditions: Princess Diana was sure and concerned that she would take Prince Charles to be her husband. Both of them would become a couple which is beneficiary to them.
- Sincerity conditions: Princess Diana really meant what she said and she would take Prince Charles as her husband. She also wanted him and her to become a spouse.
- Essential conditions: Princess Diana wanted to take Prince Charles as her husband. She would become Prince Charles' wife and become his spouse once she said the utterance.
- Wedding Guests : **We will.** [50]

In performing '**accept**', [50] the hearers (The wedding guests) responded what the speaker (The priest) asked by stating the utterance. The wedding guests responded with the utterance [50] which proved that they were able to do what the priest asked, and they made a promise. As the speakers, the wedding guests wanted the hearers (Prince Harry and Meghan Markle) to listen what they said. They

accepted the marriage of Meghan and Harry truthfully and they would help and support the couple as long as they both shall live. All the wedding guests performed performative verb of **'accept'** implicitly and directly in declarative word order, which the illocutionary force can still be indicated as follow:

- **We will.**
- **(We (first person plural) + accept (Vp) + the marriage of Prince Harry and Meghan Markle (object) + to + always support their marriage life as long as they both shall live (U)).**

The explanations of the felicity conditions in the marriage vows using the theories by Searle are explained below:

- Propositional content conditions: The wedding guests accepted Prince Harry to be Meghan Markle to be married together, and they promised that they would always support them in their marriage life in the future.
- Preparatory conditions: The wedding guests were sure that the priest, Meghan, and Harry wanted them to accept their marriage and to support the couple with their marriage life.
- Sincerity conditions: The wedding guests really meant what they said and they would do the promise that was intended, which was to always support both marriage.
- Essential conditions: the wedding guests, as the speakers, wanted the priest, Meghan Markle, and Prince Harry to believe them that they

were truthfully accepted their marriage and they would try to always support them as long as they both shall live.

- Prince Charles : **To have and to hold from this day forward, for better for worse, for richer for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish until death us do part.** [12]

In performing ‘**promise**’ [12], the speaker (Prince Charles) committed to the hearer (Princess Diana) that he would hold her from this day forward in any circumstances. Prince Charles performed the performative verb ‘**promise**’ in declarative word order directly yet implicitly. The illocutionary force can be indicated as follow:

- **To have and to hold from this day forward, for better for worse, for richer for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish until death us do part.**
- (**I** (first person) + **promise** (Vp) + **you** (second person) + **that** + **I will have and hold you...** (U)).

The explanations of the felicity conditions in the marriage vows using the theories by Searle are explained below:

- Propositional content conditions: Prince Charles would have and hold Princess Diana in any circumstances in their marriage life.
- Preparatory conditions: Prince Charles was sure that Princess Diana wanted him to fulfill his commitment. He was also able to do every promises he made which would benefit him and Princess Diana.

- Sincerity conditions: Prince Charles was intended to do all the promises he had made and meant everything he said.
- Essential conditions: Prince Charles would keep his promises by loving, comforting, honoring, and keeping Princess Diana in sick and in health in the future.
- Prince Harry : **With my body, I honor you. All that I am, I give to you. And all that I have, I share with you. Within the love of God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.** [60]

In performing ‘commit’, [60] the speaker (Prince Harry) had committed himself to the hearer (Meghan Markle) that he would give all of him to her and honor her once she became his wife. He committed to her in the name of God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit that he would be sincere to Meghan Markle as long as they were married. Prince Harry performed the performative verb of ‘commit’ implicitly and directly in declarative word order, which the illocutionary force can still be indicated as follow:

- **With my body, I honor you. All that I am, I give to you. And all that I have, I share with you. Within the love of God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.**
- **(I (first person) + commit (Vp) + you (second person) + that I will honor you with my body, I will give all that I am to you... (U))**

The explanations of the felicity conditions in the marriage vows using the theories by Searle are explained below:



- Propositional content conditions: Prince Harry committed to Meghan Markle that he would honor her and he would be sincere to her in the name of God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
- Preparatory conditions: Prince Harry was sure about his commitments to Meghan Markle that he would give all of him to her. Meghan Markle would be honored and she could see the true colors of Prince Harry when she became his wife.
- Sincerity conditions: Prince Harry really meant what he had committed and he would do everything he had said.
- Essential conditions: Prince Harry had committed to Meghan Markle and he supposed to do all the commitment as long as they were married.

**4.2.3 Directive** : It is the illocutionary act which stated by the speaker to get the hearer to do something. In this marriage vows, the directives illocutionary acts were used only by the priests. According to Searle (1969: 66), the felicity conditions of assertive speech acts are as follows:

- Propositional content : Future act *A* by *H*.
- Preparatory condition : (i) *S* believes *A* needs to be done (ii) *H* is able to do *A* (iii) *H* has the obligation to do *A* (iv) *S* has right to tell *H* to do *A*.
- Sincerity condition : *S* wants *H* to do *A*.
- Essential condition : Counts as an attempt to get *H* to do *A*.

They were performed twenty-six times in the marriage vows. The performative verbs used in performing directives illocutionary acts were **‘require’**, **‘charge’**, **‘invite’**, **‘tell’**, **‘ask’**, and **‘request’**. Some verbs were performed explicitly and implicitly, and some were completed directly and indirectly.

In Princess Diana’s wedding, the priest performed **‘require’** and **‘charge’** one time each. He used the performative verbs because he wanted both Princess Diana and Prince Charles to make the vows honestly with no compulsion from any party. The other priest also used the same performative verbs in Kate Middleton’s wedding for similar purposes. Both priests performed those performative verbs explicitly and directly.

In Meghan Markle’s wedding, one of the performative verbs which performed directive illocutionary act was **‘invite’**. Unlike the other two, this was the only wedding where the priest asked Meghan Markle and Prince Harry to join their hands together. It was only performed one time by the priest, and it was performed explicitly and implicitly.

Meanwhile, the performative verbs **‘tell’** was used by the priest in all weddings. He used the verb to tell both groom and bride so they could state the reason why they might not be lawfully married before the vows were started. The verb **‘tell’** was used one time in each wedding by the priest at the beginning of marriage vows. It is completed implicitly and directly. Hereinafter, the performative verb of **‘ask’** was performed implicitly and indirectly by the priests due to the interrogative word order. The verb **‘ask’** was accomplished three times in each

marriage vows. It was used in asking all the grooms and brides if they were willing to take their partner as their spouse for the rest of their lives.

Next, the performative verb **‘request’** was used by the priest to complete the questions continuing the performative verb **‘ask’**. The function was similar which to get the confirmation from both groom and bride if they accepted to be together with their spouse during all times. The verb **‘request’** used by the priests in all marriage vows and it was performed implicitly and indirectly. It was also the only verb which performed both indirectly and directly. In performing verb **‘request’** implicitly and directly, the priests used it to ask everyone to pray for the new married couple. It was performed in all marriage vows. Here are the examples of performative verbs performed in assertive illocutionary acts:

- The Priest : **I require and charge you both as you will answer at the dreadful day of judgement when the secrets of all hearts shall be disclosed. [1]**

In performing **‘require’** and **‘charge’** [1], the speaker (The priest) required the hearers (Prince Charles and Princess Diana) that both of them will answer the whole marriage vows truthfully because it would be accounted for on judgement day. The priest used the performative verb of **‘require’** and **‘charge’** in directive word order directly and explicitly at the same time. The illocutionary force can be indicated as follow:

- **I require and charge you both as you will answer at the dreadful day of judgement when the secrets of all hearts shall be disclosed.**

- (**I** (first person) + **require** (Vp) + **you** (second person) + **and** + **I** (first person) + **charge** (Vp) + **you** (second person) + **to** + **answer at the...** (U))

The explanations of the felicity conditions in the marriage vows using the theories by Searle are explained below:

- Propositional content conditions: The priest required Prince Charles and Princess Diana to answer the marriage vows truthfully.
- Preparatory conditions: Prince Charles and Princess Diana were able to do what the priest had asked.
- Sincerity conditions: The priest wanted Prince Charles and Princess Diana to answer the marriage vows honestly because it would be accounted in the judgement day.
- Essential conditions: Prince Charles and Princess Diana could do what the priest had asked.
- The Priest : **I now invite you to join hands and make your vows in the presence of God and his people. [54]**

In performing '**invite**' [54], the speaker (The priest) asked the hearers (Meghan Markle and Prince Harry) to join their hands together and to state declare their vows in front of the priest and the audiences to each other. The priest performed the performative verb '**invite**' explicitly and directly and indirectly in imperative word order. The illocutionary force can be indicated as follow:

- **I now invite you to join hands and make your vows in the presence of God and his people.**
- (**I** (first person) + **now** + **invite** (Vp) + **Meghan Markle and Prince Harry** (second person) + **to** + **join hands and...** (U)).

The explanations of the felicity conditions in the marriage vows using the theories by Searle are explained below:

- Propositional content conditions: The priest wanted Meghan Markle and Prince Harry to join their hands together with the priest before the giving and receiving rings session.
- Preparatory conditions: Meghan Markle and Prince Harry were able to join their hands together as the priest asked.
- Sincerity conditions: The priest wanted Meghan Markle and Prince Harry to join their hands together before committing their selves with the wedding rings.
- Essential conditions: The priest tried to ask Meghan Markle and Prince Harry to join their hands together to continue the next session of the marriage vows.
- The Priest : **Diana Frances, wilt thou have this man to thy wedded husband? [7]**

In performing ‘ask’ [7], the speaker (The priest) asked the hearer (Princess Diana) if she accepted Prince Charles to be her husband. The priest

performed the performative verb ‘ask’ implicitly and indirectly in interrogative word order. The illocutionary force can be indicated as follow:

- **Diana Frances, wilt thou have this man to thy wedded husband?**
- (I (first person) + ask (Vp) + Princess Diana (second person) + if + she takes this man to thy wedded husband. (U)).

The explanations of the felicity conditions in the marriage vows using the theories by Searle are explained below:

- Propositional content conditions: The priest wanted to know Princess Diana’s decision by asking her confirmation to take Prince Charles as her husband.
- Preparatory conditions: The Priest wondered what Princess Diana’s answer, therefore, he asked her and it was also part of wedding ceremony.
- Sincerity conditions: The priest wanted Princess Diana to make a decision by being honest with her feelings.
- Essential conditions: The priest tried to find the information by receiving the answer from Princess Diana about his question.
- The Priest : **Wilt thou love him, comfort him, honor and keep him, in sickness and in health? And forsaking all other, keep the only unto him so long as you both shall live?[27]**

In performing ‘request’ [27] the speaker (the priest) requested confirmation from the hearer (Kate Middleton) by asking her if she would love,

comfort, keep him in sickness and in health as long as they both shall live. The priest performed the performative verb of '**request**' indirectly and implicitly in interrogative word order. The illocutionary force can be indicated as follow:

- **Wilt thou love him, comfort him, honor, and keep him in sickness and in health? And forsaking all other, keep the only unto him so long as you both shall live?**
- (**I** (first person) + **request** (Vp) + **your confirmation** (object) + **if** + **you would love him, comfort him...** (U)).

The explanations of the felicity conditions in the marriage vows using the theories by Searle are explained below:

- Propositional content conditions: The priest wondered what Kate Middleton's answer after he made confirmation about the things she should do once she accepted Prince William to become her husband.
- Preparatory conditions: The Priest wondered what Kate Middleton's answer, therefore, he requested her confirmation by mentioning everything she should do.
- Sincerity conditions: The priest wanted Kate Middleton's to make a decision by being honest with her feelings.
- Essential conditions: The priest tried to find the information by receiving the answer from Kate Middleton about his question.

- The Priest : **Let us pray.** [37]

In performing ‘**request**’ [37], the speaker (The priest) asked the hearers (Kate Middleton, Prince William, and the audiences) to pray together for the new married couple before declaring the announcement that they were officially married. The priest performed the performative verb ‘**request**’ implicitly and directly in imperative word order. The illocutionary force can be indicated as follow:

- **Let us pray.**
- (**I** (first person) + **request** (Vp) + **everyone** (second person) + **to** + **pray** (U)).

The explanations of the felicity conditions in the marriage vows using the theories by Searle are explained below:

- Propositional content conditions: The priest wondered if the audiences, including Kate Middleton, and Prince William, could pray together for the joyous of the new married couple if he told them to.
- Preparatory conditions: The Priest wondered what the audiences’ reaction, therefore, he requested everyone to pray together which would be led by him.
- Sincerity conditions: The priest wanted everyone to pray together for Kate Middleton and Prince William.
- Essential conditions: The priest knew that everyone was happy for the new married couple because they prayed together for them.



- The Priest : Therefore, if either of you knows a reason why you may not lawfully marry, **you must declare it now!** [42]

In performing ‘**tell**’ [42], the speaker (The priest) commanded the hearers (Prince Harry and Meghan Markle) to state all of their doubts to each partner before they really decided to commit with each other. The priest wanted to make sure that either groom or bride wished to be married, because there is no turning back once the marriage vows are stated. Both groom and bride understood what the priest commanded them to do, but they had no doubts and they were sure about their feelings. Hence, they did not say anything. This caused insertion sequence which shows delay in acceptance. The priest, as the first speaker, performed the performative verb of ‘**tell**’ implicitly and directly in imperative words order, which the illocutionary force can still be indicated as follow:

- **You must declare it now!**
- (I (first person) + **command** (Vp) + **you** (second person) + **to** + **declare it now!** (U))

The explanations of the felicity conditions in the marriage vows using the theories by Searle are explained below:

- Propositional content conditions: the priest wanted both Prince Harry and Meghan Markle to confront if either of them had doubts about each other before the marriage vows begin.
- Preparatory conditions: the priest needed both Prince Harry and Meghan Markle to declare their doubts, if there is any, before stating

the marriage vows, so that they would know if the wedding should be proceeded.

- Sincerity conditions: the priest wanted Prince Harry and Meghan Markle to be honest to themselves and to declare all doubts that they have to each partner before they started the marriage vows.
- Essential conditions: neither Prince Harry nor Meghan Markle did the command that was asked by the priest. Although the priest managed to get them to understand what he commanded, they did not do it because they were sure about their feelings so they could continue their wedding.

**4.2.4. Expressive:** It is the illocutionary act which stated by the speaker in expressing its acknowledgement about the hearer. In this marriage vows, the expressives illocutionary acts were used only by the priest. According to Searle (1969: 67), the felicity conditions of assertive speech acts are as follows:

- Propositional content : None.
- Preparatory condition : *S* has just encountered (or been introduced to, etc.) *H*.
- Sincerity condition : None.
- Essential condition : Counts as courteous recognition of *H* by *S*.

The expressives illocutionary acts were performed four times in all marriage vows. The performative verbs used in performing expressive speech acts were

**‘thank’** and **‘praise’**. The priests performed performative verb **‘praise’** in the marriages of Kate Middleton, Princess Diana, and Meghan Markle one time each, and the performative verb of **‘thank’** performed once in Meghan Markle’s wedding. All of the expressive illocutionary acts performed implicitly and directly in the marriage vows. The expressive speech acts were all used to worship God. Here are the examples of performative verbs performed in assertive illocutionary act:

- The Priest : **Oh eternal God, creator and preserver of all mankind.** [18].

In performing **‘praise’** [18], the speaker (The priest) praised the hearer (God) that He is eternal, and the creator and preserver of all mankind. The priest praised Him as a part of praying in the marriage vows. However, there was no real presence of God in the marriage vows which made the priest proposed it indirectly. The priest performed the performative verb of **‘praise’** implicitly and directly in declarative word order. The illocutionary force can be indicated as follow:

- **Oh eternal God, creator and preserver of all mankind.**
- **(I (first person) + praise (Vp) + God (second person) + that + He is eternal, creator and preserver of all mankind. (U))**

The explanations of the felicity conditions in the marriage vows using the theories by Searle are explained below:

- Propositional content conditions: None.
- Preparatory conditions: The priest had just praised God as a part of Christian belief in the wedding ceremony.
- Sincerity conditions: None.
- Essential conditions: The priest believed that God heard him while there was no the presence of God.
- The Priest : As we stand, let us pray for Harry and Meghan. **God, our father, from the beginning you have blessed creation with abundant life.** [52]

In performing ‘**thank**’ [52] the speaker (The priest) was praying by thanking the God. Meghan Markle, Prince Harry, and everyone at the wedding were the creations of God and received his blessing so that they were joined together to celebrate a beautiful wedding and the beginning of a new couple in the British Royal Family, Meghan and Harry. There was no intended hearer in performing this act. The priest performed the performative verb of ‘**thank**’ implicitly and directly in declarative word order, which the illocutionary force can be indicated as follow:

- **God, our father, from the beginning you have blessed creation with abundant life.**
- (I (first person) + **thank** (Vp) + **the God** (second person, not mentioned) + **that** + **he had blessed us with abundant life** (U)).

The explanations of the felicity conditions in the marriage vows using the theories by Searle are explained below:

- Propositional content conditions: None
- Preparatory conditions: The priest believed that God had given all of his creations abundant life and blessings so they could meet in the joyous day.
- Sincerity conditions: None.
- Essential conditions: The priest recognize what God had given to everyone.

**4.2.5. Declaration:** It is the illocutionary act which the statement of the speaker changes the circumstances of the hearer. In this marriage vows, the declaration illocutionary acts were used by the Priests, Prince Charles, Prince William, Prince Harry, and Meghan Markle. According to Searle (1969: 66), the felicity conditions of assertive speech acts are as follows:

- Propositional content : The circumstance of *H* that is changed by *S*.
- Preparatory condition : (i) *S* has the power over *H* (ii) *S* has a right in the circumstances (iii) *H* has the obligation to do the act.
- Sincerity condition : *S* wants to change the circumstance of *H*.
- Essential condition : *S* changes the circumstance of *H*.

The declaration illocutionary acts were performed seven times in the marriage vows. The performative verbs used in performing declaration speech acts were ‘**declare**’, ‘**proclaim**’, and ‘**pronounce**’. The performative verb of ‘**declare**’

was performed one time each by Prince Charles, Prince William, Prince Harry, and Meghan Markle. It was used to give the wedding rings to their spouses. The performative verb ‘declare’ was performed implicitly and directly.

The verbs ‘**proclaim**’ was used directly one time in Meghan Markle’s wedding by the priest when he announced that Meghan Markle and Prince Harry were officially married. It was performed explicitly and directly. On the other hand, the priests used ‘pronounce’ explicitly and directly and in Princess Diana and Kate Middleton’s weddings. Although all verbs in declarative speech acts were performed both explicitly and implicitly, everything was completed directly. Here are the examples of performative verbs performed in assertive illocutionary acts:

- Prince Harry : **Meghan, I give you this ring as a sign of our marriage.**

[59]

In performing ‘**declare**’, [59] the speaker (Prince Harry) repeated after the priest while he took the ring. He declared to the hearer (Meghan Markle) that the ring he gave her represented all of him in taking her as his wife. He declared it to Meghan Markle while put the ring on her finger, and he uttered his declaration in front of the people whom attended the wedding and in the name of God. Meghan Markle performed the performative verb of ‘declare’ implicitly and directly in declarative word order, which the illocutionary force can still be indicated as follow:

- **Meghan, I give you this ring as a sign of our marriage.**
- **(I (first person) + declare (Vp) + you (second person) + that + I gave you this ring as a sign of our marriage. (U))**

The explanations of the felicity conditions in the marriage vows using the theories by Searle are explained below:

- Propositional content conditions: Prince Harry declared that he would give her a wedding ring as the symbol of their marriage.
  - Preparatory conditions: Prince Harry put Meghan Markle the ring and told her the truth by wearing the wedding ring, it means Meghan were tied in a knot and she was willing to accept Prince Harry completely.
  - Sincerity conditions: Prince Harry believed by giving Meghan Markle the wedding ring, it represented all of him to her and tied her into a knot.
  - Essential conditions: Meghan Markle was tied in a knot and accepted Prince Harry all of him once she worn the wedding ring.
- The priest : **I pronounce that they be man and wife together in the name of Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.** [40]

In performing ‘**pronounce**’ [40], the speaker (The priest) pronounced that Prince William and Kate Middleton were officially married. He declared to the hearers (Prince William, Kate Middleton, and everyone who attended the wedding) that the marriage vows had been completed which resulted in the presence of a new couple in the British Royal Family. His utterances created a new history. The priest performed the performative verb ‘**pronounce**’ explicitly and directly in declarative word order. The illocutionary force can be indicated as follow:

- **I pronounce that they be man and wife together in the name of Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.**
- (**I** (first person) + **pronounce** (Vp) + **everyone in the wedding** (second person)+ **that** + **they be man and wife together in the name of Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost** (U))

The explanations of the felicity conditions in the marriage vows using the theories by Searle are explained below:

- Propositional content conditions: The priest pronounced to everyone the presence of a new couple in the British royal family.
- Preparatory conditions: The priest pronounced to everyone who attended the wedding that Prince William and Kate Middleton were officially married by completing the processes of marriage vows such as stating the marriage vows, joining hands, giving bride to the groom, and giving ring to the bride.
- Sincerity conditions: The priest believed that every process or marriage vows had been done by Prince William and Kate Middleton before declaring them as a couple.
- Essential conditions: Prince William and Kate Middleton were officially married and became the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge after being declared by the priest.



- The Priest : **I, therefore, proclaim that they are husband and wife.**

[64]

In performing declaration speech act, [64] the speaker (The priest) stated the declaration that Prince Harry and Meghan Markle were officially married. He declared to the hearers (Prince Harry, Meghan Markle, and everyone who attended the wedding) that the main marriage vows had been completed which resulted in the presence of a new couple in the British Royal Family. His utterances created a new history. The priest performed the performative verb of '**proclaim**' explicitly and directly in declarative word order, which the illocutionary force can still be indicated as follow:

- **I, therefore, proclaim that they are husband and wife.**
- (**I** (first person) + **proclaim** (Vp) + **everyone in the wedding** (second person) + **that** + **they are husband and wife.** (U))

The explanations of the felicity conditions in the marriage vows using the theories by Searle are explained below:

- Propositional content conditions: The priest declared everyone the presence of a new couple in British royal family.
- Preparatory conditions: The priest declared that Meghan Markle told Prince Harry were officially married after they did their marriage vows and completed the formalities such as stating the marriage vows, holding hands, and giving and receiving rings to everyone who attended the wedding.

- Sincerity conditions: The priest believed that every process or marriage vows had been done by Meghan Markle and Prince Harry before declaring them as a couple.
- Essential conditions: Meghan Markle and Prince Harry were officially married and become the Duke and Duchess of Sussex after being declared by the priest.

## CHAPTER 5

### CONCLUSION

The speech acts are the actions of communicating. Speech acts also exist in marriage vows. The writer uses three marriage vows in the British Royal Family's weddings to provide the readers the use of speech acts in each marriage vow. In this thesis, the writer finds that all types of speech acts are found in each marriage vow that the writer analyzed. Those five types of speech acts are assertives, commissives, directives, expressives and declarations.

Here, the speech acts that are mostly performed in all marriage vows are directives and commissives. The speech acts directives are mostly performed by the priests where they will ask the grooms and brides couples of question and ask them to do the rituals concerning to the marriage. The performative verbs **'ask'** and **'request'** are the most frequently used for asking the grooms and brides for taking each other as their spouses. Meanwhile, the commissive speech acts are mostly performed by the grooms and brides to deliver their commitments in the marriage. The performative verbs of **'take'** and **'promise'** have the authority to unite two singles to become one for committing themselves to each other. Nonetheless, in Meghan Markle and Prince Harry's wedding, the commissives speech act is also performed by the audiences. The least used speech acts in all marriage vows are declaration, assertives, and expressives. Assertive speech acts are usually shown when the priests informed the audiences that the marriage vow processes have been completed by the grooms and brides. Expressive speech acts appear as the priests

started to pray or praise God. Finally, declaration speech acts are performed as a conclusion that the marriage vows have completed.

In conclusion, the weddings of Princess Diana and Prince Charles, Kate Middleton and Prince William, and Meghan Markle and Prince Harry show that all of the speech acts exist. Although some are performed indirectly, most speech acts are completed directly with implicit performative verbs. Most speech acts are achieved by the priests as the main speakers. Some suggestions for other researchers who are willing to do further research of the similar objects may focus more in adding the sequences of the wedding events.

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## APPENDIX

### Prince Charles and Princess Diana Wedding – The Royal Wedding (1981)

at St. Paul Cathedral, London on July 29th, 1981.

A video by Inte-Pathe History with 87.394 viewers, published on May 18th, 2018.

Source : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A0bmGTLrAhY>

P: The Archbishop of Canterbury Primate – dr. Robert Runcie

C: Charles Phillip Arthur George

D: Diana Frances Spencer

Prince and Princess of Wales

**P : I require and charge you both as you will answer at the dreadful day of judgement when the secrets of all hearts shall be disclosed [1], but if either of you know any impediment why you may not be lawfully joined together in matrimony, you do now confess it [2], for be well assured that so many as are coupled together otherwise living God's worth doth allow are not joined together by God, neither is their matrimony lawful.**

C & D : \*both remained silent\*

**P : Charles Phillip Arthur George, wilt thou have this woman to thy wedded wife? [4] To live together after God's ordinance in the holiest state matrimony? Wilt thou love her, comfort her, honor and keep her in sickness and in health? And forsaking all other, keep thee only unto her so long as you both shall live? [5]**

**C : I will [6]**

**P : Diana Frances, wilt thou have this man to thy wedded husband? [7] To live together according to God's law in the holiest state of matrimony? Wilt thou love him, comfort him, honor and keep him in sickness and in health? And forsaking all other, keep the only unto him so long as you both shall live? [8]**

**D : I will. [9]**

**P : Who giveth this woman to be married to this man? [10]**

**C : I, Charles Phillip Arthur George, take thee, Diana Frances, to my wedded wife [11], to have and to hold from this day forward, for better for worse, for richer for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish, until death us do part [12].** According to God's holy law, and thereto I give thee my troth.

**D : I, Diana Frances, take thee, Phillip Charles Arthur George, to my wedded husband [13], to have and to hold from this day forward, for better for worse, for richer for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish, until death us do part [14].** According to God's holy law, and thereto I give thee my troth.

**P : Bless our Lord this ring and grant that he who gives it and she who shall wear it, may remain faithful to each other, and abide in my peace and favor, and live together in love until their lives end through Jesust Christ our Lord.**

**C : With this ring, I thee Wed [15]. With my body, I'd be honored, and all my worldly goods with thee I share [16].** In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

**P : Let us pray [17]. Oh eternal God, creator and preserver of all mankind. [18]** Giver of all spiritual grace the author of everlasting life send by blessing upon these thy servants. This man and this woman whom we bless in my name, that life faithfully together, they may surely perform and keep the vow, and covenant betwixt them, may wear of this ring given and received is a token and pledge. And may ever remain in perfect love and peace together, and live according to thy laws through Jesus Christ our lord.

Those whom God has joined together, let no man put asunder. **But as much as Charles Phillip Arthur George and Diana Frances, have consented together in holy wedlock, and have witnessed the same before God and this company, and thereto have given and pledged that their truth either to other, and have declared the same by giving and receiving of a ring, and by joining of hands [19]. I pronounce that they be man and wife together in the name of Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost [20].** Amen.

God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Ghost. Bless preserve and keep you. The Lord mercifully with his favor look upon you, and so fill you with all spiritual

benefiction and grace, that he may so live together in this life, in the world to come.  
He may have life everlasting.



## **Prince William and Kate Middleton Wedding – The Royal Wedding Vows (2011)**

at Westminster Abbey, London on April 29th, 2011.

A video by The Royal Family with 3.935.042 viewers, published on April, 29th 2011.

Source : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-RFL4iyoi4s>

P : The Archbishop of Canterbury – Dr. Rowan Williams.

W : William Arthur Phillip Louis.

K : Catherine Elizabeth Middleton.

Duke and Duchess of Cambridge.

**P : I require and charge you both as you will answer at the dreadful day of the judgement when the secrets of all hearts shall be disclosed [21]** that if either of you know any impediment why ye may not lawfully joined together in matrimony, **you do now confess it [22]**. It will be well assured that so many as are coupled together otherwise than God's Word offer love are not joined together by God neither is the matrimony lawful.

W & K : \*both remained silent\*

**P : William Arthur Phillip Louis, wilt thou have this woman to thy wedded wife? [23]** To live together according to God's Law in the holiest state of matrimony? **Wilt thou love her, comfort her, honor and keep her, in sickness and in health? And forsaking all other, keep thee only unto her so long as you both shall live? [24]**

W : **I will. [25]**

**P : Catherine Elizabeth, wilt thou have this man to thy wedded husband? [26]** To live together according to God's Law in the holiest state of matrimony? **Wilt thou love him, comfort him, honor and keep him, in sickness and in health? And forsaking all other, keep the only unto him so long as you both shall live? [27]**

**K : I will [28]**

**P : Who giveth this woman to be married to this man? [29]**

**W : I, William Arthur Phillip Louis, take thee Catherine Elizabeth, to my wedded wife [30]. To have and to hold from this day forward, for better for worse, for richer for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish until death us do part [32].** According to God's holy law, and thereto I give thee my troth.

**K : I, Catherine Elizabeth, take thee William Arthur Phillip Louis, to my wedded husband [33]. To have and to hold from this day forward, for better for worse, for richer for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish until death us do part [34].** According to God's holy law, and thereto I give thee my troth.

**P : Bless our Lord this ring and grant that he who gives it, and she who shall wear it. May remain faithful to each other and abide in thy peace and favor, and live together in love until their lives end through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**W : With this ring, I thee wed [35], with my body I'd honor, and all my worldly goods with thee I share [36].** In the name of the father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.

**P : Let us pray [37]. Eternal God creator and preserver of all mankind [38],** giver of all spiritual grace the author of everlasting life. Send thy blessing upon these thy servants, this man and this woman whom we bless in thy name that living faithfully together, they may surely perform and keep the violent Covenant betwixt them made wear of this ring given and received as a token and pledge, and may ever remain in perfect love and peace together, and live according to thy laws through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Those whom God hath joined together, let no man put asunder. **For as much as William and Catherine have conceived consented together in holy wedlock, and have witnessed the same before God and this company, and thereto have given and pledged their troth either to other, and have declared the same by giving and receiving of a ring and by joining of hands [39]. I pronounce that**

**they be man and wife together in the name of Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost [40]. Amen.**

God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Ghost, bless preserve and keep you.  
The Lord mercifully with his favor look upon you, and so fill you with all spiritual  
benediction and grace, that he may so live together in this life. That in the world to  
come, he may have life everlasting

**Prince Harry and Meghan Markle Wedding – Royal Wedding: Prince Harry Lifts Meghan Markle’s Veil (2018) and Royal Wedding: Prince Harry, Meghan Markle Exchange Vows (2018).**

at St. George’s Chapel, Berkshire on May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

Two videos by Today with 1.820.054 and 162.860 viewers, published on May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

Sources : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uPY75hLtYr4> and  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vfyttAUR1Rk>

P: The Archbishop of Canterbury – Justin Welby

H: Henry Charles Albert David

M: Rachel Meghan Markle

G: Wedding guests

Duke and Duchess of Sussex

**P : Harry and Meghan, the vows you are about to take are to be made in the presence of God [41], who is judge of all and knows all the secrets in our hearts. Therefore, if either of you knows a reason why you may not lawfully marry, you must declare it now [42].**

H & M : \*both remained silent\*

**P : Harry, will you take Meghan to be your wife? [43] Will you love her, comfort her, honor and protect her? And forsaking all others, be faithful to her as long as you both shall live? [44]**

**H : I will. [45]**

**P : Meghan, will you take Harry to be your husband? [46] Will you love him, comfort him, honor and protect him? And forsaking all others, be faithful to him as long as you both shall live? [47]**

**M : I will. [48]**

**P : And will you, the families and friends of Harry and Meghan, support and uphold them in their marriage now and in the years to come? [49]**

**G : We will. [50]**

**P : As we stand, let us pray for Harry and Meghan [51]. God, our father, from the beginning you have blessed creation with abundant life [52]. Pour out your blessings upon Harry and Meghan, that they may be joined in mutual love and companionship in holiness and commitment to each other. [53] We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who is alive and resins with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit. One God, now and forever. Amen. Harry and Meghan, I now invite you to join hands and make your vows in the presence of God and his people. [54]**

**H : I, Harry, take you Meghan to be my wife. [55] To have and to hold from this day forward. For better for worse, for richer for poorer, in sickness and in health. To love and to cherish until death us do part according to God's holy law. [56] In the presence of God, I make this vow.**

**M : I, Meghan, take you Harry to be my husband. [57] To have and to hold from this day forward. For better for worse, for richer for poorer, in sickness and in health. To love and to cherish until death us do part according to God's holy law. [58] In the presence of God, I make this vow.**

**P : Heavenly Father, by your blessing, let these rings be to Harry and Meghan a symbol of unending love and faithfulness, to remind them of the vow and covenant which they have made this day through Jesus Christ, our Lord, amen.**

**H : Meghan, I give you this ring as a sign of our marriage. [59] With my body, I honor you. All that I am, I give to you. And all that I have, I share with you. [60] Within the love of God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.**

**M : Harry, I give you this ring as a sign of our marriage. [61] With my body, I honor you. All that I am, I give to you. And all that I have, I share with you. [62] Within the love of God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.**

**P : In the presence of God, and before this congregation, Harry and Meghan have given their consent and made their marriage vows to each other. They have declared their marriage by the joining of hands and by the giving and receiving of rings. [63] I, therefore, proclaim that they are husband and wife. [64] Those whom God has joined together, let no one put asunder.**